



The Hub - Region 1 Catchment Area Council

2022

Legislative Forum

[Review Recording Here](#)

THE HUB

YOUR REGIONAL RESOURCE!



Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization (RBHAO)

Region 1 of Southwest CT

We serve as a strategic community partner, and work across the behavioral healthcare continuum

RBHAOs are responsible for a range of planning, education, and advocacy of behavioral health needs and services for children and adults

Visit thehubct.org for more info!

Contact us at info@thehubct.org.

REGION 1 CATCHMENT AREA COUNCIL (CAC)



The “Catchment Area Council” (CAC) is an open grassroots community group for individuals with lived experience with mental illnesses or challenges and/or substance misuse. The group includes providers, consumers, funders, family members, law enforcement, medical professionals, advocates, and more.



***Kaitlin Comet, Program Coordinator
Ingrid Gillespie, CAC Co-Chair
Director of Prevention, Liberation Programs***

We are focused on sharing resources, identifying gaps and needs, and advocating to improve the behavioral health treatment and recovery system.

Visit thehubct.org for more info! | Contact Kaitlin at kaitlin@ryasap.org.

CAC 2022

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- **Funding & State MSW Testing**

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

- **Funding in Personnel/Infrastructure**

MENTAL HEALTH IN OLDER ADULTS

- **Social Isolation & Mental Health Awareness**

PEER SUPPORT/PEER PROVIDERS

- **Peer Respite & Insurance Reimbursement**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SPEAKER

Jessica L. Welt, PsyD

CEO & Clinical Director, Child Guidance Center of Southern CT

Our Ask:

Would you consider advocating for the increase in funding for mental health personnel & infrastructure, and revision of the state licensure limited permit requirements for social workers?

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

SPEAKER

Debbie Katz, LCSW

**Director of Outreach and Community Initiatives, Kids in Crisis
Program Director, DFC Grant, Greenwich Together**

Our Ask:

Would you consider advocating for the increase in funding for mental health personnel to meet the needs of the crisis of mental health in children?

MENTAL HEALTH IN OLDER ADULTS

SPEAKER

Amy Badini, MA

Community Member, Advocate

Co-Chair of The CT Statewide Family Council and The Nathaniel Witherell Family Council

Member of Caregivers for Compromise and the Essential Caregiver Movement

Our Ask:

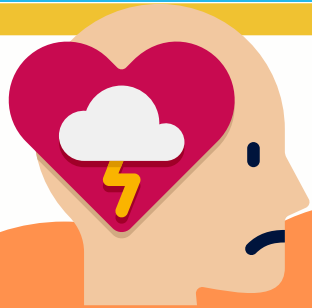
Would you consider advocating for awareness of mental health in older adults, and open to participating in a future round table discussion to provide community-based solutions in addressing isolation and mental health issues?

PEER SUPPORT & PEER PROVIDERS

Peer Specialists/Providers...

- Are individuals with lived experience and success in their own recovery process
- Utilize evidence-based practice to assist and support individuals
- Are trained to support individuals to live, work, learn and fully participate in their health and community
- Supports individuals in developing and maintaining a path to recovery, resiliency, and wellness
- Promotes empowerment and coping skills
- Can support different populations (youth to elderly, marginalized communities, multilingual services, etc.)
- Can provide crisis support, wellness plans, care coordination & follow up care
- Can provide group or individuals services, online or face to face

PEER SUPPORT & PEER PROVIDERS



No Crisis but Behavioral Health Trouble

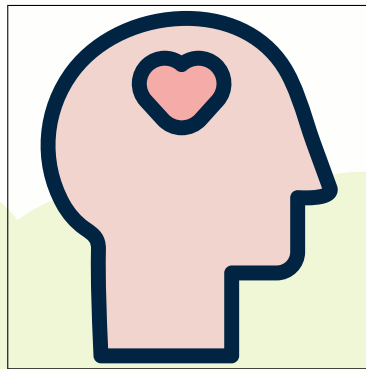
- Individuals who are untreated
- Long wait times for treatment or medication
- Unhealthy coping (substance misuse, eating disorders, self-harm)
- Potential for unexpected escalation (suicide ideation/attempts)



Crisis

- Psychiatric holds
- Overwhelmed Emergency Departments
- Incarceration
- Inconvenient treatment
- No follow up care
- Violence, discrimination
- Overwhelmed workforce

PEER SUPPORT & PEER PROVIDERS



**Peers can fill the gaps
in our behavioral
health care system in
an effective, timely &
cost-efficient manner**



CT PEER SUPPORT SERVICES TASK FORCE

S.B. No 1 - Session Year 2021

An Act Equalizing Comprehensive Access to Mental, Behavioral, and Physical Health Care in Response to The Pandemic

Section 18

Peer Support Services Task Force

Establishes a task force to study peer support services and encourage health care providers to use these services

"Peer Support Services" are nonmedical mental health care and substance use services provided by peer support specialists

Our Ask:

Would you consider advocating for the movement and progression of the Peer Task Force?

PEER SUPPORT IN CT

- Roles & Certifications
- Costs/Reimbursement/Liveable Wages
- Current Repite "beds"
- Peers deserve to be respected and protected in their work

Nicole Hampton

Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, Recovery Coach Professional

FINANCIAL COSTS & INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT INFORMATION

Financing Peer Provided Services - Independent Living Research Utilization in Collaboration with Human Services Research Institute

Creating a Network of Peer-Run Community Centers and Two-Bed Peer Respite

Integrating Recovery Focused Peer Supports into Virginia's Medicaid Program

A report on the National Survey of Compensation Among Peer Support Specialists

PEER-RUN RESPITES

Creating a Network of Peer-Run Community Centers and Two-Bed Peer Respite

Peer-run Respite: An Effective Crisis Alternative PPT

The Peer Respite Project - Compiled Info & Resources

Peer Respite Action & Evaluation - Compiled Info & Resources

Our Ask:

Would you consider recognizing and supporting the work of the Peer Respite Work Group and looking forward to receiving the one-pager?



The Hub - Region 1 Catchment Area Council

Thank you!!!